

# Statistics of St. Domingo

<sup>from</sup>  
Thompson's Lectures.

1. St. Domingo is 150 m. broad & 450 m. length.
2. Columbus discovered it 6<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1492. & gave it the name of Hispaniola. It was afterwards called St. Domingo, in consequence of <sup>the</sup> establishment in 1498 of a city to which that name was given. After its independence it was changed to Hayti. Two years after, Columbus imposed <sup>a tribute</sup> on the natives.
3. In 1499 a large number of adventurous Spaniards went to the new world in search of fortunes, & on arriving at the colony had lands allotted to them in diff<sup>t</sup> portions of the island, & were allowed to compel the natives to <sup>in lieu of the tribute</sup> cultivate them. - This was the beginning of the Indian Slavery.
4. Isabella died in the Commencement of 1506.
5. Columbus died 20. May 1506.
6. About this time Brando, Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony introduced the cultivation of the sugar cane. The result was the destruction of the natives on the island, & the importation, by fraud & force, of 40,000 indians from the Bahamas.



7. In 1517, only 14,000 remained out of a population of more than a million! - only 25 years from the discovery of the island!!
8. About this time Las Casas, proposed the introduction of Africans; & Charles V. in the beginning of his reign granted a patent for the exclusive supply of 4000 negroes regularly to St Domingo, Cuba, Jamaica & Porto Rico; & thus commenced the African Slave Trade.
9. In 1550 (58 from the discovery) hardly 150 of the Indians remained alive.
10. In 1660, the French Buccaneers settled at Port Paix - the commencement of French St Domingo.
11. In 1669 the number of planters on this part of the island amounted to 1500.
12. In 1670, the French founded Cape Francois.
13. In 1698 the French commenced + cultivation of sugar & imported 2000 negroes from Jamaica, & soon rivalled the Spanish in the amount of their productions.
14. In 1700 a regular & specific division



of the island between the Spanish & the French, took place.

15. The French Colony advanced & the Spanish declined; & in 1717, <sup>the Spanish</sup> numbered only 18,410, including all classes & descriptions of persons.

16. In 1754, the French Colony numbered

14,000 Whites	{	599 Sugar Plantations
4,000 Free Col.		3,379 Indigo —
<u>172,000 Slaves</u>		Imports 1,777,509 £.
190,000-souls		

This was the period of <sup>French</sup> St Domingo's prosperity!

17. In 1789, St Domingo numbered

42,000 Whites.	{	New Productions, Sugar,
44,000 F. Col.		Coffee, Cotton, Indigo,
600,000 Slaves.		Cocoa.

Exports £4,755,129.

Cities, Port au Prince, Seat of Gov<sup>r</sup>. &  
Cape Francois, — " — " — " in war.

2,289,480, Acres of cultivation land.

793 Sugar Plantations	
3,117 Coffee	— " —
789 Cotton	— " —
3,160 Indigo	— " —
54 Cocoa	— " —
623 Grains, Yams &c	—

Total 8,536

[297 years after discovery]



18. Population of the Spanish part of the island consisted of,

1. Pure Spaniards, there on business.
2. Creoles; or Whites descended from European settlers.
3. Mulattoes & Mestizoes - the Mulattoes being the offspring of Europeans and Indians; the Mestizoes of Europeans & Africans.
4. Unmixed Negroes.

The population numbered 47,500,

2,500 Whites; 20,000 F. Col.; 25,000 Negroes.

Such was Spanish S.<sup>t</sup> Domingo in 1789.

19. The Free Blacks (in French S.<sup>t</sup> Domingo)

were considered in a sense as public property, though not held as the property of individuals. Hence on obtaining the age of manhood they were compelled to serve 3 years in a military establishment, chiefly employed in clearing the woods of runaway negroes. At the expiration of this term they were subject to a kind of labor in repairing & highways &c almost



insupportable. They were compelled to serve in the militia of the province to which they belonged, without pay or allowance & in the horse or foot at the pleasure of the commanding officer, & equip themselves at their own expense. They could not hold any public office, trust, or employment, or exercise any of the liberal professions. A mulatto could not be a Priest, a lawyer, a physician, a surgeon, an apothecary, or a schoolmaster.

## 20. Exports in 1789.

47,000,000 <sup>lbs</sup> White sugar

93,000,000 — " — Brown — "

76,000,000 — " — Coffee

7,000,000 — " — Cotton

768,000 — " — Indigo.

## Exports in 1832.

57,000,000 <sup>lbs</sup> Coffee

1,500,000 — Cotton

500,000 — Tobacco

500,000 — Cocoa

5,000,000 — Dye Wood

80,000 — Hides

12,000 — Tortoise Shell

500,000 — Cigars

6,000,000 <sup>ft</sup> Mahogany

{ \$1,750,000, (Haytien)  
realized as revenue  
on Coffee alone.



21. In the Invasion of St. Domingo by the English 40,000 soldiers fell. £80,000,000 added to the National Debt.
22. Independence of St. Domingo declared in 1801. Then & also after Le Blanc's death an opportunity offered for opening an advantageous commerce bet. Eng. & St. Domingo, but Eng. refused to acknowledge the Island's Independence & do it.
23. May 15<sup>th</sup> 1791. The National Assembly decreed that the Free People of Color were entitled to all the rights of Citizenship.
24. Towards the close of 1791 the Nat. Assembly rescinded their decree in favor of the colored people.
25. In April 1792, The Conventional Assembly reversed the last act of the Nat. Assembly; & sent out Sauvonnay & Polverel, as Commissioners to enforce the decree & keep the peace.
26. June 20, 1793, A quarrel between a Mulatto & a White, was the occasion of a battle that raged with the utmost fury



for three days, between the Whites assisted by the seamen on the one side & the Mulattos & some insurgent blacks on the other. This was in Cape Francois, Thousands were killed. Half the town was burnt down & the Arsenal taken & plundered.

27. Santhonax, was a spectator of the scene, & having only a 1000 men to enforce authority, issued a proclamation (known as the proclamation of Santhonax), promising freedom to every slave who would range himself under the banners of the Republic.

28. In Sept 1793, the news of the above spreading in the South & West, Polverel made proclamation of freedom throughout the entire Island.

29. Feb. 1794. The Conventional Assembly of France passed a decree abolishing slavery throughout the French Colonies & thus confirming the freedom of the blacks in St Domingo.



30. Sept. 1793, at the instance of some of the White Colonists, a British Squadron entered the harbor of Jeremie. Lieut. Col. Whitelock was its commander.
31. In 1798. The British evacuated the Island.
32. In 1800 Toussaint made a tour of the Islands & was every where received with acclamation.
33. July 1. 1801 The Independence of St. Domingo was formally proclaimed.
34. Feb. 2. 1802 Le Clerc arrived at St. Domingo, & succeeded in landing a part of the troops at St. Dauphin, & the rest in other parts of the island.
35. April 25. 1802 Le Clerc issued a proclamation giving a provisional Constitution.
36. May 1802 Le. Clerc, seized Toussaint & his family, contrary to the treaty of peace, not yet two weeks old. At the same time more than 100 of his truest friends were seized & probably drowned in the sea.
37. Now came the "Bloody Scenes of St. Domingo!" The French Gen. gave no quarters - dug pits & shot them kneeling on & margin, if they fell dead, well, if not they were left to die with the putrid Carcasses at the bottom.



Others he drowned - sometimes thrown overboard loaded with chains! sometimes "Republican Weddings" were celebrated, a man & woman fastened together with a Cannon ball about their necks & then thrown into the sea! Others were put in sacks, piquenaded & then thrown overboard! Hundreds crammed one on another into the holds of ships & suffocated with the fumes of sulphur!! 300 were burned alive at Cape Henry! Others were gibbeted & left as food for the birds! As the climax blood hounds were obtained from Cuba, fed daily on negro's flesh, & set loose to hunt the negroes in the mountains!

38. Nov. 1. 1802 Leblanc died; & the Command devolved on Rochambeau. By the end of the year 40,000 French soldiers had fallen. Dessalines was at the head of the blacks.

39. In the beginning of 1803 a battle was fought between them; 500 negroes taken prisoners & were all put to death. Dessalines retaliated by doing the same to 500 French prisoners; & in April, the French were shut up in Cape Francois, besieged!



& in Dec. the Cape was evacuated & Des-  
salines was triumphant. 8000 French  
with Gen. Rochambeau fell as prisoners into  
the hands of the British. The rest embarked  
by night in six vessels, five of which were  
lost, & the sixth captured by the English.

39. Jan 1. 1804 The Independence of the  
Island was declared the second time.

40. Dessalines killed in Oct. 1806.

41. Coffee Crop of 1805, -30,000,000 lb

42. Then came the Civil war between  
Christophe in the North & Pétion in the  
S. West, which continued till 1811.

43. Pétion died in 1818. Christophe in 1819.



Ms. B. 9.1 (4)

Malenfant on St. Domingo.

- Spread of Republican principles. (1. 2.) — 1789
- Cge' - Cape Francois — Oct. 17 - (1. 3) — 1790
- Cge' & Chavanne executed March 9 — (1. 5) — 1791
- Rage of the People of Color — (6) —
- Insurrection of Jean Francois  
& Biasson, Royalists Aug. 22. — (7) — 1791
- Repelled by Republican whites, who  
murder the slaves indiscriminately — (8) —
- The slaves, thus outraged, join the insurrection,  
Many whites among their leaders — (8) —
- The South & West, at peace, — (12) —
- Agreement between whites & free people of color  
at Croix des Bouquets 11. Sept — (13) — 1791
- This agreement discussed at Port au Prince,  
& rendered nugatory by pride 21. Nov. (13. 14) — 1791
- Whites confined to Port au Prince, embody  
their slaves — (15) —
- Sortie to Croix des Bouquets — 10. Mar. — 1792
- Attacked & driven back — 28. Mar. (17-19) — 1792
- Polverel, Santhonax, & Vilhand arrive at  
the Cape — Sept 13. (29) — 1792.
- Mulattoes join them.
- General amnesty offered - refused by  
Jean Francois & Touissant — (31) —
- Borel usurps authority at Port au Prince (33)
- Marches to Croix des Bouquets - Feb 2. - (38) - 1793



Commis<sup>rs</sup> come to Port au Prince & restore  
Republican Authority — p. 43. — April 14. 1793.

Good order under the Commis<sup>rs</sup>

Galbaud arrives at the Cape — p. 50. May — 1793.

Commis<sup>rs</sup> hated by the whites for their equity  
to the colored people — p. 50.

Commis<sup>rs</sup> return to the Cape p. 51 June 10. 1793.

Galbaud remains in the harbor p. 52.

39 Quarrel between a mulatto & a marine, Officers, p. 53.

Equity of the Commis<sup>rs</sup> — p. 53

Rage of the whites — — — — —

40 Governor attacked by the Galbauds — 54. June 20. 1793.

41 Dreadful destruction — p. 54-57.

The Galbauds defeated & fly —

42 Liberty proclaimed to ~~colored~~ slaves who would  
join the Gov<sup>t</sup>. Standard — p. 57. — 1793

Polverel opens registry for freedom p. 58-62 — Sept. 1793

43 Malenfant's declaration "I was the only white man that  
refused to sign the liberty of the negroes" — p. 62.

Effects of Liberty. p. p. 57. 62. 78. 125. 131.

General Lavoux.

Louissaint gained to the Republican side. p. 63.

Monttruin's treason at Port au Prince Mar. 17. 1794

Gov<sup>t</sup> overturned through the feebleness of Santhonax p. 63-70.

English appear before the town & summon it. June 30. 1794

Commissioners return to France — p. 74.



3.

3

94

70.

94



